

IN THE CLAIMS

Claim Listing

1-36. (Canceled)

37. (Previously presented) A method in a data processing system comprising:
examining the nodes in a plurality of hierarchical trees;
determining if a node is present in only one tree by comparing two or more of the
hierarchical trees; ~~and~~
creating a merged tree based on the nodes in the hierarchical trees;
determining if the hierarchical trees comprise a set of equivalent nodes
selecting a node with the highest priority from the set of equivalent nodes if the
hierarchical trees comprise a set of equivalent nodes;
creating a shallow clone of the selected node; and
adding the shallow clone to the merged tree.

38. (Previously presented) The method of claim 37 further comprising:
creating a reference node to the node determined to be present in only one tree if a node
is determined to be present in only one tree; and
adding the reference node to the merged tree.

39. (Previously presented) The method of claim 38 further comprising:

creating the reference node in response to a determination that a node is present in only one tree.

40. (Previously presented) The method of claim 38 wherein the reference node is a pointer.

41. (Previously presented) The method of claim 38 wherein the reference node is a Java reference.

42-44. (Canceled)

45. (Previously presented) The method of claim 37 wherein the hierarchical trees comprise a group tree and a user tree.

46. (Previously presented) The method of claim 37 wherein the hierarchical trees comprise a group tree and an admin tree.

47. (Previously presented) The method of claim 37 wherein the hierarchical trees comprise a user tree and an admin tree.

48. (Previously presented) The method of claim 37 wherein the hierarchical trees comprise a group tree, a user tree, and an admin tree.

49. (Previously presented) The method of claim 37 wherein the hierarchical trees are DOM trees.

50. (Previously presented) The method of claim 49 wherein the DOM trees are XML DOM trees.

51. (Previously presented) The method of claim 37 further comprising:
printing the merged tree.

52. (Currently Amended) A data processing system comprising:
a memory comprising a program that:
examines the nodes in a plurality of hierarchical trees;
determines if a node is present in only one tree by comparing two or more of the
hierarchical trees; and
creates a merged tree based on the nodes in the hierarchical trees;
determines if the hierarchical trees comprise a set of equivalent nodes;
selects a node with the highest priority from the set of equivalent nodes if the
hierarchical trees comprise a set of equivalent nodes;
creates a shallow clone of the selected node; and
adds the shallow clone to the merged tree; and
a processor for running the program.

53. (Previously presented) The data processing system of claim 52 wherein the program further:

creates a reference node to the node determined to be present in only one tree if a node is determined to be present in only one tree; and

adds the reference node to the merged tree.

54. (Previously presented) The data processing system of claim 53 wherein the program further:

creates the reference node in response to a determination that a node is present in only one tree.

55. (Previously presented) The data processing system of claim 53 wherein the reference node is a pointer.

56. (Previously presented) The data processing system of claim 53 wherein the reference node is a Java reference.

57-59. (Canceled)

60. (Previously presented) The data processing system of claim 52 wherein the hierarchical trees comprise a group tree and a user tree.

61. (Previously presented) The data processing system of claim 52 wherein the hierarchical trees comprise a group tree and an admin tree.

62. (Previously presented) The data processing system of claim 52 wherein the hierarchical trees comprise a user tree and an admin tree.

63. (Previously presented) The data processing system of claim 52 wherein the hierarchical trees comprise a group tree, a user tree, and an admin tree.

64. (Previously presented) The data processing system of claim 52 wherein the hierarchical trees are DOM trees.

65. (Previously presented) The data processing system of claim 64 wherein the DOM trees are XML DOM trees.

66. (Previously presented) The data processing system of claim 52 wherein the program further:
prints the merged tree.

67. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium comprising instructions for controlling a data processing system to perform a method comprising the steps of:

examining the nodes in a plurality of hierarchical trees;
determining if a node is present in only one tree by comparing two or more of the
hierarchical trees; and
creating a merged tree based on the nodes in the hierarchical trees;
determining if the hierarchical trees comprise a set of equivalent nodes;
selecting a node with the highest priority from the set of equivalent nodes if the
hierarchical trees comprise a set of equivalent nodes;
creating a shallow clone of the selected node; and
adding the shallow clone to the merged tree.

68. (Previously presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 67 wherein the
method further comprises the steps of:

creating a reference node to the node determined to be present in only one tree if a node
is determined to be present in only one tree; and
adding the reference node to the merged tree.

69. (Previously presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 68 wherein the
method further comprises the step of:

creating the reference node in response to a determination that a node is present in only
one tree.

70. (Previously presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 68 wherein the reference node is a pointer.

71. (Previously presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 68 wherein the reference node is a Java reference.

72-74. (Canceled)

75. (Previously presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 67 wherein the hierarchical trees comprise a group tree and a user tree.

76. (Previously presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 67 wherein the hierarchical trees comprise a group tree and an admin tree.

77. (Previously presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 67 wherein the hierarchical trees comprise a user tree and an admin tree.

78. (Previously presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 67 wherein the hierarchical trees comprise a group tree, a user tree, and an admin tree.

79. (Previously presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 67 wherein the hierarchical trees are DOM trees.

80. (Previously presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 79 wherein the DOM trees are XML DOM trees.

81. (Previously presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 67 wherein the method further comprises the step of:
printing the merged tree.